



## EducationUSA Weekly Update

No. 113 January 19th, 2009

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## I. Scholarships and Fellowships

### Research Experiences for Undergraduates in Biodiversity Conservation

The Research Experiences for Undergraduates in Biodiversity Conservation is a National Science Foundation funded program for summers 2008 - 2010.

#### Program Summary:

A multidisciplinary group of students and faculty will compare fossil, archeological and modern marine samples to study how the marine ecosystem has changed through time. We will determine the degree and nature of human impact, assess the health of the modern system, and identify possible approaches to protecting biodiversity.

#### Activities include the following:

- \* Collecting and studying fossils to reconstruct changes in the ecosystem over the past 3 million years
- \* Applying archeological techniques to American Indian shell midden materials to examine the marine system before intensive human influences
- \* Participating in research cruises and examining the health of the modern marine fauna
- \* Exploring environmental management implications of your work

Dates: June 2 - July 30, 2009

#### Eligibility:

Eligible participants include rising juniors and seniors in Archeology/American Indian Studies, Biology, Environmental Studies, Geology/Paleontology and Marine Sciences. Members of underrepresented groups are especially encouraged to apply!

#### Financial Support:

- \* \$ 450.00 a week stipend for 8 weeks
- \* All expenses paid
- \* Round-trip transportation to Wilmington
- \* Free housing in university apartments
- \* Per diem food allowance (cook or eat out)
- \* Money to continue your research at your home institution
- \* Travel to present your research results

Application Deadline: March 1, 2009

Application - instructions for submitting an application <<http://www.uncw.edu/earsci/reu/application.htm>>

Program Flyer - printable pdf file <<http://www.uncw.edu/earsci/reu/documents/NSFREUfactsheet09.pdf>>

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Contact an EducationUSA adviser near you for guidance on finding and applying to an accredited U.S. college or university  
[www.educationUSA.state.gov](http://www.educationUSA.state.gov)

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#### Graduate Research Assistantship Louisiana State University

An attractive Graduate Research Assistantship is available for a doctoral student to do research on linkages between the US, Latin America, and the Caribbean. It begins in August 2009, includes a stipend of \$25,000 per year for four years, an additional needs-based supplement, all tuition, and health insurance. The student must complete course work toward the PhD while maintaining a 3.5 GPA, carry out research on the project under my supervision, and develop a related dissertation project. No teaching duties are required. Further funding opportunities are available beyond the four-year grant, e.g., Departmental Assistant Instructorship, Grad School Dissertation Writing Fellowship, or Graduate Research Assistantship on another sponsored project.

Review of applications will begin on January 16th and continue until filled.

The successful applicant will have appropriate speaking and writing skills in English and Spanish as well as a masters degree in geography or closely related humanities or social sciences discipline; want to join a group of creative, productive doctoral students conducting research on topics in the geography of Latin America and the Caribbean; want to complete a PhD in a top-ranked cultural and historical geography program; and want to pursue a career in academia.

LSU offers an attractive campus with impressive library, computing, and other types of support. The Department of Geography and Anthropology is involved in exciting interdisciplinary opportunities such as Atlantic Studies, and I particularly encourage grads who want to develop dissertation projects that engage the intersections of nature, culture, and history. Baton Rouge is an affordable and vibrant city located an hour north of New Orleans in the heart of a culturally interesting region. The many notable faculty and graduates of the Geography & Anthropology Department have earned it a long-standing reputation for leadership in understanding the cultural and historical geography of Latin American, the Caribbean, and the US. Please consider joining us in our efforts.

E-mail Prof. Andrew Sluyter directly for further information and/or to begin the application process.

And please circulate this posting to all potentially interested Listserv communities.

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Associate Editor  
The Geographical Review  
[www.amergeog.org/gr/grhome.html](http://www.amergeog.org/gr/grhome.html)

**Dickinson College invites applications for an 18-month Visiting Postdoctoral Scholar in Sustainability of Human-Environment Interactions** to begin August 2009. The successful candidate will carry out a research project using spatial concepts and geographic information science methods (e.g. GIS) to explore questions about human interactions with the environment and

implications for sustainability. The research project should be broadly interdisciplinary and address questions at the interface of at least two of the following: humanities, social sciences and natural sciences. Projects are sought with a focus on problems related to food systems and sustainable agriculture or land use change impacts on biogeochemical cycles and other ecosystem goods and services of watersheds, but proposals of projects on other aspects of human-environment interactions will also be considered. In addition to carrying out the proposed research project, the successful applicant will be expected to give a series of lectures as part of a colloquium on problems in sustainability, teach or co-teach one or two courses during the 18-month appointment in an area related to the applicant's expertise, and interact with undergraduates who are conducting research on topics related to the applicant's research.

The purpose of the Visiting Scholar appointment is to model for Dickinson faculty and students how spatial concepts and analytic methods can be applied to problems in sustainability and to provide the Visiting Scholar an opportunity to carry out a research project while gaining experience for successful research and teaching at a liberal arts college. Collaborations on research and teaching are strongly desired by our faculty, including faculty in Africana studies, American studies, anthropology, archaeology, biology, chemistry, community studies, East Asian studies, English, environmental science, geology, health studies, history, Latin American studies, and sociology. The Visiting Scholar will be affiliated with Dickinson's new Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education and other departments as appropriate, and will also work closely with Dickinson's GIS Specialist to promote the use of GIS throughout the college curriculum.

To be eligible, candidates must have received a doctoral degree in 2004 or later, or expect to successfully defend a dissertation no later than August 2009, demonstrated expertise with geographic information systems (GIS), a record of research that applies spatial analysis to problems of human-environment interactions, and teaching experience. Knowledge of spatial statistics would be advantageous. The successful applicant will receive a salary and benefits commensurate with experience and will be eligible to apply for additional financial support for travel, research and professional development.

Apply on-line at: <https://jobs.dickinson.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=50670>. Application materials must include (1) a letter of application with statement of research and teaching interests, (2) a research proposal of up to 3 pages with indication of modest budget needs, (3) a curriculum vitae, (4) a graduate transcript, and (5) names and contact details of three references. Applications received by February 2, 2009, will receive full consideration. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

Dickinson College is committed to diversity, and we encourage candidates who will contribute to meeting that goal to apply. Applications and nominations of women and minorities are strongly encouraged.

Contact for additional information:  
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Dickinson College  
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## II. News you can use

### National Science Digital Library

Visitors can choose from the range of research topics by clicking on the links in the middle of the homepage. The available topics range from "Astronomy & Space" to "Chemistry & Materials" to "Nanoscience". Visitors interested in the issue of educating girls in science and math, or the history of women in the sciences would do well to take a look at the "Computing" and "Physics" topics for links to such information. In all of the twelve research topics, there is a link at the end of the list of resources to an overview of the research that the National Science Foundation is doing in the selected area. For instance, in the "Earth & Environment Research Overview" link, the major questions that are being studied by the NSF are posed in the form of clickable links, such as "How can organisms live without sunlight?" or "What part do we play in the Earth's changing climate? From The Scout Report, Copyright Internet Scout Project 1994-2009. <http://scout.wisc.edu/>

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### Pictures of Science: 700 Years of Scientific and Medical Illustration

[http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/explore/?collection=SeeingIsBelieving700&col\\_id=197](http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/nypldigital/explore/?collection=SeeingIsBelieving700&col_id=197)  
Brought together originally in 1999 for an exhibition held at the New York Public Library's Gottesman Exhibition Hall, this set of intriguing images covers the fields of astronomy, chemistry, geology, medicine, and physics taken from different engravings, lithographs, and manuscript illuminations. The images here range from the 16th to the 19th centuries, and they are culled from works such as the 1798 volume "Elemens de la philosophie de Neuton" and the important 1830 volume "Principles of Geology" written by geologist Sir Charles Lyell. All told, visitors can browse through ten crucial texts in their entirety, and they are all wonderful meditations on the skills and talents of unique scientists (and artists) throughout the ages. Finally, visitors looking for specific materials can also search through the entire collection, or even click on the "See all Images" button. From The Scout Report, Copyright Internet Scout Project 1994-2009. <http://scout.wisc.edu/>